



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

### WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

A product is hazardous if it contains substances that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- TOXIC – poisonous to humans, domesticated animals, or the environment.
- IGNITABLE – can catch fire easily.
- CORROSIVE – can eat through living tissue or materials.
- REACTIVE – explosive or can produce deadly vapors.

### PROPER HANDLING AND STORAGE IS IMPORTANT

Always keep hazardous products out of the reach of children and pets. To find out whether or not a product is hazardous, check the label. Products labeled **DANGER**, **WARNING**, or **CAUTION** warn of potential hazards if the chemical is misused, spilled or disposed of improperly. Often labels contain important first-aid information in case of accidental ingestion, inhalation, or skin contact.

- Read and follow the instruction on a chemical product carefully.
- Call the manufacturer or dealer if the instructions are unclear.
- Never use more of a product than the manufacturer recommends.
- Do not mix products; mixing may cause a poisonous reaction.
- And always keep the original label on for identification purposes and in case of accidental poisoning or spills.

### CONSEQUENCES OF IMPROPER DISPOSAL

Household hazardous wastes should always be separated from normal household trash. The modern sanitary landfill is not equipped to accept hazardous wastes. Hazardous wastes disposed in a landfill can leach into the ground and contaminate soil and groundwater.

**Do not just pour hazardous products down the drain.** Neither septic systems nor wastewater treatment plants are designed to handle hazardous wastes. **Do not pour them onto the ground or into storm drains either.** Local storm drains lead directly to the Columbia River or drain into the ground. Both the Columbia River and groundwater are extracted for drinking water!

## LOCAL RESOURCES

Residents of both Benton and Franklin counties can dispose of their household hazardous waste for FREE at their respective household hazardous waste disposal facilities.

Benton County: Richland Landfill  
3102 Grosscup Road  
8am-4pm M-F, 9am-5pm S-Sun  
942-7387

Franklin County: BDI Transfer  
1721 Dietrich Road  
Fridays 1-5pm  
547-2088

Items NOT accepted at these facilities include:

- Medical waste
- Explosives
- Ammunition
- Radioactive materials
- Industrial, commercial or agricultural waste
- Asbestos

### **Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events**

Kennewick    Saturday April 17, 1999  
9am-1pm  
Fire Station #3 behind Target

Prosser    April 24, 1999  
9am-1pm  
Prosser City Yard

Franklin  
County:    Week of April 19-24  
BDI Transfer  
Call for hours: 547-2088